

Public Assistance Program Overview

Washington State
Emergency Management
Division



Pierce County – December 2007

Public Assistance

- Welcome
- Introductions
- Administrative Notes
- In Case of Emergency



Spokane County – December 2008

PA Program's Purpose

To provide federal/state grant assistance to public agencies who have suffered from the effects of a major disaster or an emergency



Clallam County – January 2009

Funding

- Provides 75% federal funds
- Non-federal 25% match, as determined by the State Legislature, usually split between applicant and state
- Only available in declared counties following a Presidential Declaration of Emergency or Disaster



King County – January 2011

Eligible Applicants

- Cities, Towns
- Counties
- State Agencies
- Federally Recognized Indian Tribes
- Special Purpose Districts
- Critical Private Non-Profit Organizations
- Governmental Service Type Private Non-Profit Organizations

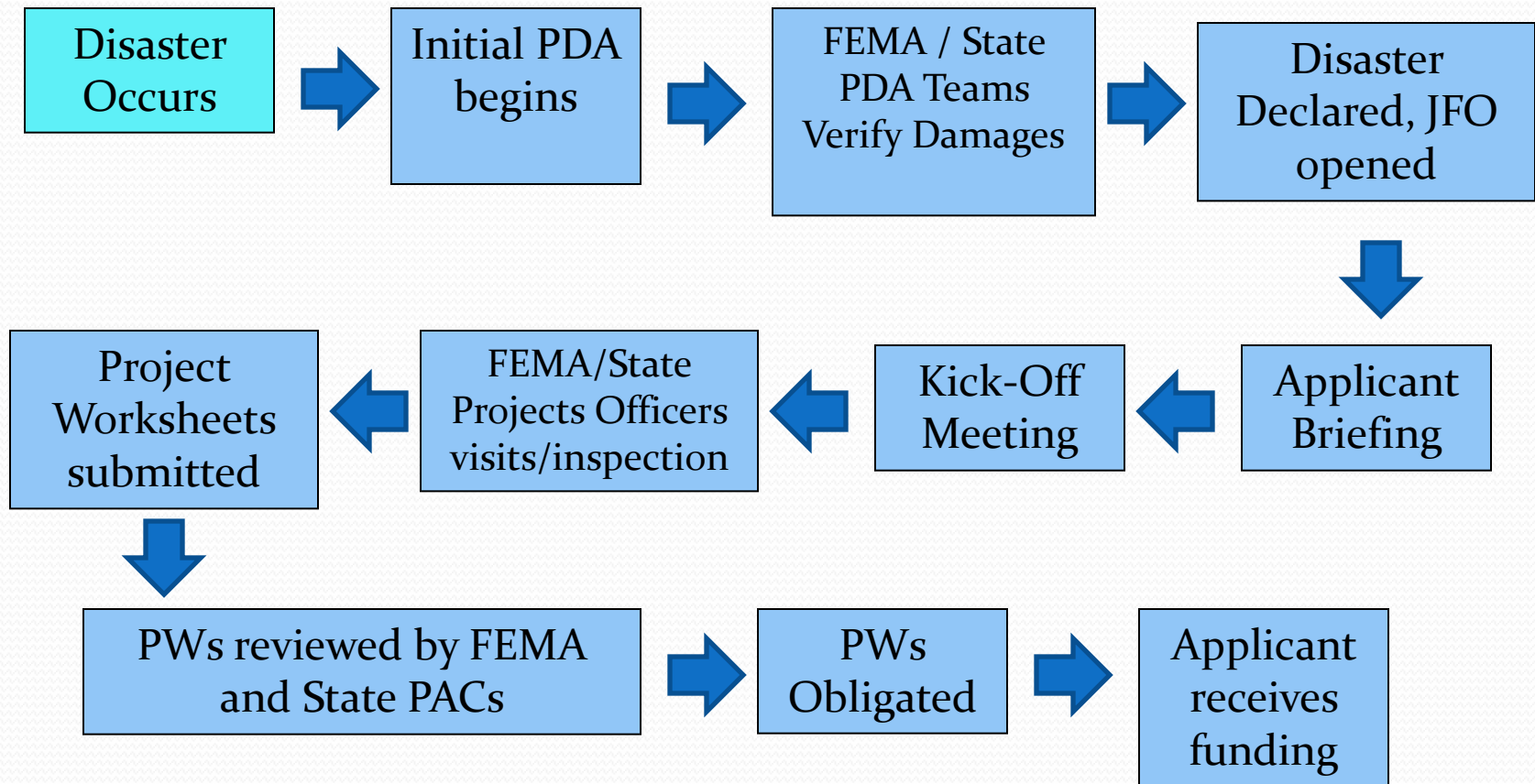


Whatcom County – January 2009

Washington State Disasters

<u>Disaster</u>	<u>Disaster Date</u>	<u>Total Funded</u>
1361-DR-WA	2/2001	\$83,549,349
1499-DR-WA	11/2003	\$11,434,225
1641-DR-WA	1-2/2006	\$ 8,452,625
1671-DR-WA	11/2006	\$32,402,413
1682-DR-WA	12/2006	\$38,832,929
1734-DR-WA	12/2007	\$67,376,983
1817-DR-WA	01/2009	\$63,151,961
1825-DR-WA	12/2008	\$34,274,033
1963-DR-WA	01/2011	\$ 8,714,378

How Do We Get Disaster Aid?



Preliminary Damage Assessments

- A Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) identifies the initial cost estimate of damages for governmental agencies, private non-profits, and tribal governments.
- Damages are identified on PDA forms
- Damage estimates are consolidated by county to determine if federally mandated thresholds for each County have been reached
- Additional Statewide threshold must be met to be considered for disaster aid
- FEMA/State PDA teams verify costs

Why Participate in a PDA

- First step to receive Federal Funds
 - Identifies if your agency has eligible disaster damages
 - County must qualify - \$3.39 per capita
 - State must qualify - \$1.35 per capita
 - Identifies potential funding needs for other federal agencies (FEMA, FHWA, USACE, NRCS, & BIA)
 - Identifies Potential Number of Applicants
- To be successful, all need to participate
 - Participating in a PDA does not commit the jurisdiction to FEMA requirements

**The per capita dollar amount will change every
October 1st!**

PDA Cost Limitations

- **Only** damages occurring within *Identified Event Period*
- Cost to return back to pre-disaster *Condition* and *Capacity*
- **Cannot** recognize:
 - Adopted codes and standards
 - Anticipated costs for permit conditions
 - Potential Hazard Mitigation
 - Negligence
 - Inactive facilities
 - Contingencies – Repairs only made if a disaster is declared or FEMA pays
 - Facilities that are the responsibility of another federal agency
- Insurance deductibles

Categories of Work

Emergency Work

- A - Debris Removal
- B - Emergency Protective Measures



Mason County – December 2007

Permanent Work

- C - Road Systems
- D - Water Control Facilities
- E - Public Buildings & Equipment
- F - Public Utility Systems
- G - Parks and Other Facilities

Eligible Items – Emergency Work

- An eligible activity must be essential to meeting an immediate threat to life or property during or resulting from the declared event.
 - Overtime for regular employees to include benefits
 - All hours (Regular & Overtime) for temporary hires including fringe benefits
 - All equipment hours
 - Materials
 - Contracts
 - Mutual Aid Compacts



Pierce County – January 2009

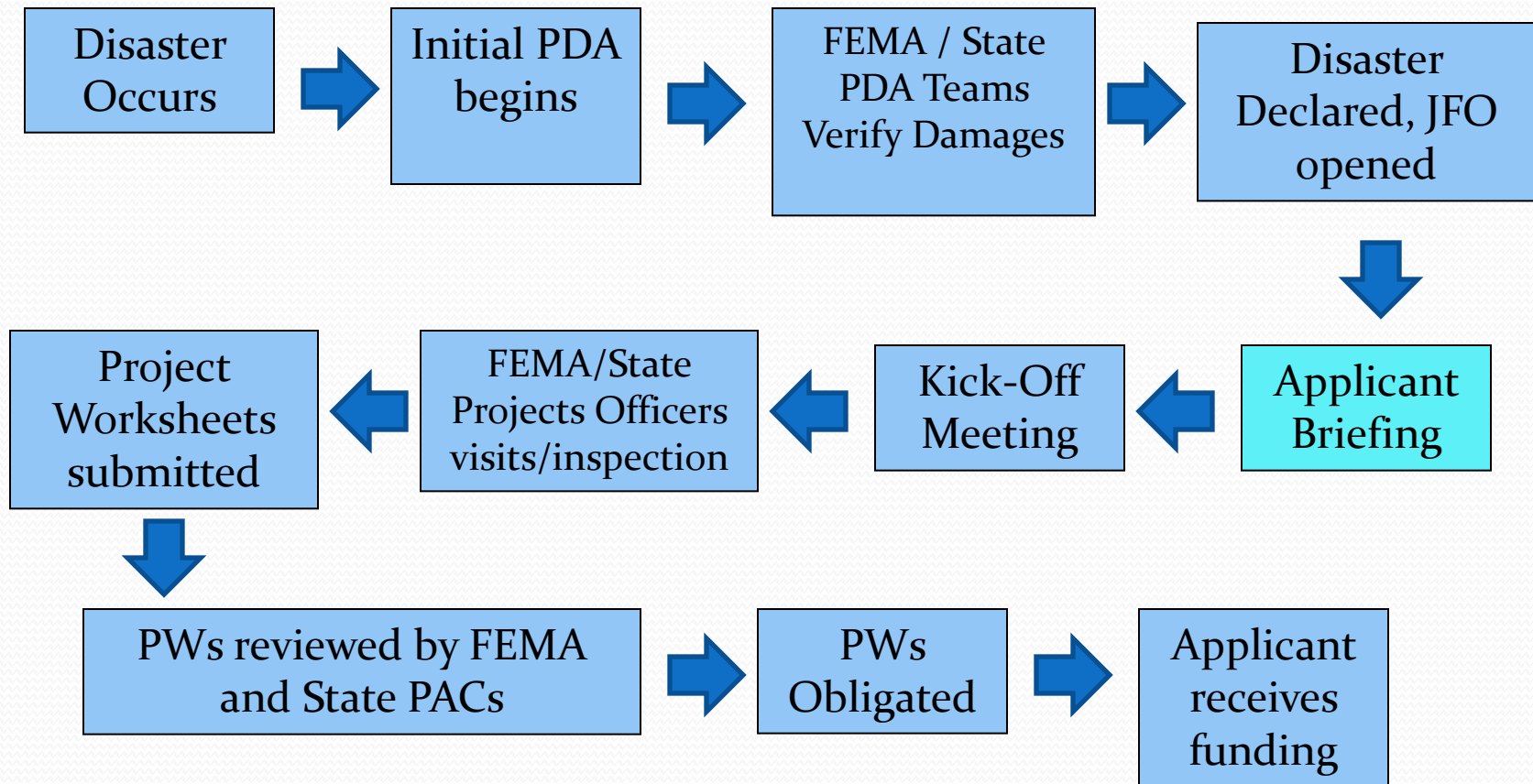
Eligible Items – Permanent Work

- Repair, restore or replace damaged facilities to pre-disaster design, capacity and condition
 - Regular and Overtime (including benefits) of employees
 - Equipment costs
 - Materials
 - Contracts



Lincoln County – January 2009

Where Are We In the Process?



Applicant Briefing

- The State will coordinate the Applicant Briefing locations, dates, and times with the County Emergency Management Director in each declared county
- The briefings are normally held at the county level
- The potential number of applicants and the area involved in the disaster will determine the number of briefings held
- The County Emergency Management Directors make the arrangements for the briefing locations
- Applicants may attend any Applicant Briefing

Kickoff Meetings

- Scheduled by the State PACs
- Generally scheduled at the Applicant Briefing
- Scheduled with Applicants who have completed a Request for Public Assistance (RPA)
- **Having the correct staff attendees is absolutely critical**
- Applicant identifies all damages to FEMA/State team
- Applicants will receive:
 - FEMA Applicant Manual
 - State Public Assistance Manual
 - FEMA Public Assistance Guide
 - FEMA Public Assistance Policy Digest
 - FEMA Mitigation Manual
 - FEMA Environmental Sheet
 - FEMA/State Environmental Greenbook

Kickoff Meetings (cont)

The Applicant should come away with an understanding of

- Eligible categories of work
- Project development & review process
- Special considerations (i.e. floodplain, environmental, historic)
- Insurance offsets and requirements
- Hazard Mitigation Proposals – (site specific, applicant proposed)
- Small vs. large projects / Improved & Alternate Projects
- Purchasing and contracting requirements
- PA Grant documentation requirements
- Audit requirements
- Paperwork flow between State and Applicant

Key Objective: Identify all the damages being claimed

Environmental Concerns



Emergency Work

- An Applicant is required to notify the appropriate local, State and Federal regulatory agencies as soon as emergency work commences or shortly thereafter
- Make your emergency contacts
- Document your emergency contacts
 - Emergency Contact Log
 - Copies of emails, faxes, and responses
 - Photos



Environmental Documentation

- For completed or partially completed emergency work, the Applicant must provide the following documentation:
 - Copies of permits acquired from the necessary regulatory agencies and/or
 - Copies of notification to the regulatory agencies during their application for funding assistance or
 - Copies of emails or telephone logs of contacts verifying contact and required permits/conditions applicable to emergency work.
- Work in violation of local, State, or Federal laws may jeopardize or prohibit FEMA funding

Common Projects with Environmental Concerns

- Debris disposal other than to an approved or permitted landfill
- Where the repair or restoration foot print changes
- Affecting a historic or potentially historic site
- Affecting a threatened or endangered species
- Affecting a wetland, floodplain, or body of water
- Involving oil and hazardous materials
- Known or suspected environmental concerns

**FEMA funding creates a federal nexus
and brings federal requirements**

Environmental Laws In Effect

- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- Endangered Species Act (ESA)
- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)
- Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act (MSA)
- Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)
- Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA)
- Clean Water Act - Sections 401 and 404 (CWA)
- Clean Air Act (CAA)
- Rivers and Harbors Act - Section 10
- Federal Executive Orders for Wetlands (EO 11990) and Floodplains (EO 11988)

Required Immediate Repairs

- Take pictures – photos, videos, digital
- Crews need to document damages and actions taken in daily logs - contacts, conditions, and rationale
- Track equipment & material costs by site
- Track labor costs by person by project
- Track all of your costs involved with damage assessment separately
- Environmental / Historic precautions
 - Document emergency contacts with WDFW, USACE, NMFS, USFWS, and WA ECY as well as any contacts with the SHPO or any tribal coordination.